

AGENDA
City Council Meeting
City of Baker
Parish of East Baton Rouge
State of Louisiana
Council Chambers
3325 Groom Road, Baker, LA 70714
ZOOM

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Passcode: 217106

Telephone Conference Call

Dial In: 646-558-8656

Webinar ID: 860 3233 0393

Passcode: 217106

February 8, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, met in regular session on February 8, 2022, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

MAYOR

Darnell Waites

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Glenda Bryant

Rochelle Dunn

Brenda G. Jackson

Dr. Charles Vincent

ABSENT

Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Waites presided.

The invocation was given by Mayor Waites.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Vincent.

DISPOSITION OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Dunn to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Young

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

RECOGNITIONS

PLANNING AND ZONING MATTERS

1. Approve Business License Request – 2022-2

CandyCrazyLand, LLC

Location – 3441 Harrison Street, Baker, Louisiana

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled, as no representative was present.

Council Member Young arrived.

2. Approve Business License Request – 2022-3

Baker Coin Laundry

Location – 5015 Groom Road, Baker, Louisiana

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Bryant, seconded by Council Member

Jackson to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for Baker Coin Laundry.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Approve Business License Request – 2022-4

Little Dreamers Christian Academy

Location – 4345 Harding Street, Baker, Louisiana

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled, as no representative was present.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discuss Louisiana state-local government opioid litigation settlement (Mayor)

The Mayor asked that this agenda item be tabled.

2. Approve travel for Captain Borneman to Property Room Management Training seminar February 16 – 17, 2022, in Little Rock, Arkansas (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to approve travel for Captain Borneman to the Property Room Management Training seminar being held February 16 – 17, 2022, in Little Rock, Arkansas.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

3. Schedule work session to discuss redistricting and reapportionment and possible Main Street Economic Development District (Mayor)

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to schedule a work session to discuss redistricting and reapportionment and possible Main Street Economic Development District on Monday, February 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

4. Update on quality and fair housing in the City of Baker for all tenants, landlords and homeowners (Bryant)

Mission Statement

A. To provide a healthy lifestyle through community gardens and exercise availability.

B. To provide a safe environment through communication with each other & law enforcement.

C. To provide all neighborhoods with a sense of pride & integrity.

Council Member Bryant read the mission statement and clarified that law enforcement includes both the Police and Fire Departments. Council Member Bryant stated Baker Boulevard has a large amount of pedestrian traffic, and she feels the city should seriously consider placing a sidewalk in this area. She said individuals walking along Baker Boulevard at night, which is not lit, is a safety issue. Council Member Bryant announced the CDC has begun COVID testing through wastewater, which is something she has mentioned several times. She asked that anyone wanting more information regarding the testing contact her. She also said grants are available to fund the testing.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Denise Stevenson, 717 Sherron, an employee of the Louisiana Department of Health, spoke on behalf of the State, saying retail food establishments and mobile units are permitted by the State Medical Health Director. Ms. Stevenson also said the City of Baker's Code of Ordinances states these facilities are authorized to operate. She advised the City of Baker to cease and desist banning food trucks and sending law enforcement to

these establishments. Ms. Stevenson went on to say that failure to do so, could result in the City of Baker being fined.

Discussion regarding food trucks followed.

Council Member Bryant asked again that a wellness check be done at 4341 Burgess. She reiterated she is concerned about the resident and their living conditions.

Candace Ware, CandyCrazyLand, LLC arrived. The Mayor asked that Ms. Ware's business license request be considered at this time.

1. *Approve Business License Request – 2022-2
CandyCrazyLand, LLC
Location – 3441 Harrison Street, Baker, Louisiana*

Discussion regarding the agenda item was held.

The motion was made by Council Member Young, seconded by Council Members Dunn/Vincent to accept the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission and approve the business license request for CandyCrazyLand, LLC.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Council Member Jackson did not vote, as she had stepped out of the Council Chamber.

Council Member Vincent reminded his colleagues about the ethics report that needs to be filed if there are any remaining election funds in their accounts. The report is due by the middle of February. He asked that everyone continue to participate in Council Member Vincent's Friendly Neighbor Keeper initiative by picking up trash in neighborhoods, as well as throughout the city and surrounding areas. Council Member Vincent said the Baker High School basketball teams, both boys and girls, are very fine and encouraged everyone to support them and their efforts. He wished both teams well in the upcoming tournament. He thanked everyone who supported Mr. William Johnson and his family during the events celebrating his being united with his daughter, Danish pop star, Zindy Laursen.

Council Member Dunn thanked Ms. Stevenson for speaking. She asked that everyone be patient until the task force can be formed and definitive action taken on the issue of food trucks. Council Member Dunn reminded everyone to continue being tested for COVID and continue to stay safe.

Council Member Bryant stated businesses and developing our neighborhoods are economic development. Great schools are economic improvement. These are two things the City of Baker can work on. She asked Council Member Vincent to bring back information from meetings of the Baker Economic Development District & Convention Center. Council Member Bryant stated a park and ride and roundabout are two items being discussed by that body.

Council Member Vincent said all the meetings are public meetings and everyone is welcome to attend. He assured Council Member Bryant he will be happy to provide progress reports and updates.

Discussion regarding the Baker Economic Development District & Convention Center was held.

Council Member Bryant asked if the property for the proposed transit center has already been purchased by the city and expressed her concerns regarding said project. Council Member Bryant feels the red light at Plank Road and Lavey Lane should not be replaced with a roundabout, as this will only slow traffic on a heavily traveled roadway. She said

she wants residents to know not everyone is on board with spending the city's funds this way.

Council Member Young encouraged his colleagues to go and see the food truck on Main Street for themselves and not rely on hearsay. He contends the owner of the food truck is not violating any law by having the vehicle parked in front of the store on Main Street. He also encouraged his colleagues and leaders of the city to participate more in school activities. Council Member Young said increased participation at schools would help demonstrate unity to students, teachers, and staff. He commended Becky Bond for her work on District 4's recent meeting, saying it was a very informative and positive event.

Council Member Jackson yielded her time to Council Member Bryant.

Council Member Bryant addressed Council Member Young and his stance on food trucks. She stated during his prior term as council member for District 4, he was 100% opposed to food trucks. She also stated he was the first person to complain about the barbeque truck that was parked on Groom Road. Council Member Bryant said Council Member Young has the right to have a change of heart, but no right to challenge others, whose standards and expectations for Main Street's development, differ from his own.

Council Member Young stated he is totally against any food truck coming and going as they please, whether it be on Groom Road or anywhere else in the city. He said as long it's being legislated the situation can be addressed. However, at that time there were no controls in place regulating their movement and the city was not receiving anything from those individuals.

RESOLUTIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

1. Proclamation declaring February 2022 American Heart Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

2. Proclamation declaring February 2022 National Cancer Prevention Month in the City of Baker (Vincent)

City Attorney Fabre read the proclamation.

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to accept the proclamation.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC MEETING

BIDS AND PROPOSALS

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CONDEMNATIONS

1. 1556 Alabama (Mayor)

2. 1832 Florida (Mayor)

3. 1916 Florida (Mayor)
4. 3226 Polk (Mayor)
5. 2235 Chamberlain (Mayor)
6. 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)
7. White house next door to 1984 Chamberlain (Mayor)
8. 5803 Biscayne (Bryant)
9. 4451 Baker Boulevard (Bryant)
10. 4509 Baker Boulevard (Bryant)
11. 2116 E. Azalea (Dunn)
12. 5804 Biscayne (Mayor)

ANNEXATIONS

Council Member Bryant asked who is on the Annexation Review Committee. The Mayor stated it's an administration committee. He said the Police Department, the Fire Department, Chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission, the City Attorney, the Mayor, Reatha Wright, and the Administrative Officer comprise the Annexation Review Committee.

Council Member Bryant said there is a large amount of unincorporated area around the City of Baker. She feels the city needs to purchase this property so that it has control over what is placed in these areas. Council Member Bryant stated again that a major medical facility would be an ideal addition to the City of Baker.

REPORTS ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1. Planning and Zoning
2. Annexation Review Committee
3. Economic Development Team
4. Heritage Museum/Related Committees
5. ABC Board
6. Other Special Committees
 - a. Buffalo Festival
 - b. Prayer Breakfast
 - c. Strategic Planning Committee
 - d. Citizens Advisory Board to Law
 - e. Main Street District Committee

Council Member Jackson asked to be given a list of the members of all the city's boards and commissions. The Mayor asked that she call him so they could discuss it.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ADJOURN

The motion was made by Council Member Vincent, seconded by Council Member Jackson to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

**CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

I, Angela Canady Wall, certify that I am Clerk of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana, and that the above and foregoing is a copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana held on February 8, 2022.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HILLCREST MEMORIAL GARDENS
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
Dial In: 774-220-4000
PIN: 22537
February 8, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, met in regular session on February 8, 2022, with the following members in attendance at the meeting:

COMMISSIONERS

Glenda Bryant
Rochelle Dunn
Brenda G. Jackson
Dr. Charles Vincent
Darnell Waites
Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Waites presided.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report

Niketa King submitted a monthly sales report for January 2022.

The motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to accept the sales report submitted for January 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

2. Other Reports

3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

I, Angela Canady Wall, certify that I am Clerk of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana, and that the above and foregoing is a copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Hillcrest Memorial Gardens held on February 8, 2022.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council

**MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BAKER CONSOLIDATED UTILITIES SYSTEM
CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA
TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL
Dial In: 774-220-4000
PIN: 22537
February 8, 2022**

The City Council of the City of Baker, Louisiana, sitting as the Board of Commissioners for the Baker Consolidated Utilities System, met in regular session on February 8, 2022, with the following members attending:

COMMISSIONERS

Glenda Bryant
Rochelle Dunn
Brenda G. Jackson
Dr. Charles Vincent
Darnell Waites
Robert Young

CALL TO ORDER – Commissioner Waites presided.

DISPOSITION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The meeting was called to order and the motion was made by Commissioner Waites seconded by Commissioners Jackson/Vincent to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2022.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NEW BUSINESS

OTHER NECESSARY BUSINESS

1. Monthly Business Report
2. Other Reports
3. Items Requiring Action

ADJOURN

There was no other business to come before the commission. The motion was made by Commissioner Waites, seconded by Commissioner Vincent to adjourn.

YEAS: Bryant, Dunn, Jackson, Vincent, Waites, Young

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

**CITY OF BAKER
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

I, Angela Canady Wall, certify that I am Clerk of the Council for the City of Baker, Louisiana, and that the above and foregoing is a copy of the minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Baker Consolidated Utility System held on February 8, 2022.

Angela Canady Wall, LCMC
Clerk of Council